I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A paper handler in combination with a printer comprising:

a paper inlet where paper enters said paper handler;

a paper exit where paper exits said paper handler from said paper handler to the inlet of the printer; and

a drag system that handles the paper to provide for continuous paper flow through the printer, wherein said drag system applies a drag force to the paper in the range of about 0.8 N to about 1.11 N.

2. (original) The paper handler of claim 1, further comprising an optic sensor.

3. (currently amended) A paper handler in combination with a printer comprising:

a paper inlet where paper enters said paper handler;

a paper exit where paper exits said paper handler from said paper handler to the inlet of the printer; and

an optic sensor,

~~The paper handler of claim 2~~, where said optic sensor senses marks on the paper and communicates with the printer indicating sensing of the marks by the optic sensor.

4. (currently amended) The paper handler of claim ~~1~~ 3 further comprising an automatic paper advance system that automatically positions the paper proximate to the printer inlet.

5. (original) The paper handler of claim 4, where the printer is provided with a paper sensor that senses paper at the printer inlet and where said automatic paper advance system is in communication with the printer such that when the printer senses paper in the printer inlet the automatic paper advance system terminates paper feed to the printer inlet.

6. (original) The paper handler of claim 1, where said paper handler is in communication with the printer.

7.(original) The paper handler of claim 1, where said paper handling system produces a drag force onto the paper.

8. (original) The paper handling system of claim 7, where said paper handling system produces a drag force onto the paper that is uniform across the width of the paper.

9. (currently amended) ~~The paper handler of claim 1~~, A paper handler in combination with a printer comprising:

a paper inlet where paper enters said paper handler;

a paper exit where paper exits said paper handler from said paper handler to the inlet of the printer;

a drag system; and

an optic sensor, where said ~~paper handling~~ drag system is comprised of a tension block disposed proximate to and parallel with a tension rod.

10. (original) The paper handler of claim 9, where the paper is threaded between said tension block and said tension rod, where said tension block and said tension rod cooperate to exert a drag force on the paper.

11. (original) The paper handler of claim 1, wherein the paper is a paper stream comprising a continuous stream of paper.

12. (original) The paper handler of claim 1 further comprising a programmable controller, where said controller is in operative communication with said paper handler and said printer.

13. (original) The paper handler of claim 1 further comprising a paper cutter that cuts the paper within the paper handler, wherein said controller directs the operation of said paper cutter, monitors the operation of said paper cutter, and monitors the position of said paper cutter.

14. (original) The paper handler of claim 13, where said paper handler controller operatively communicates with said paper cutter and directs said paper cutter to cut the paper within the paper handler.

15. (currently amended) ~~The paper handler of claim 13 further comprising a motor,~~ A paper handler in combination with a printer comprising:

a paper inlet where paper enters said paper handler;

a paper exit where paper exits said paper handler from said paper handler to the inlet of the printer;

a paper cutter;

a motor; and

a controller

wherein said motor operatively advances paper through the paper handler, and wherein said controller controls the speed of said motor, the rate of deceleration of said motor, the

rate of acceleration of said motor, the actuation of said motor, and the deactivation of said motor.

16. (original) The paper handler and printer combination of claim 1, where the printer is an off the shelf printer and modified to be in operative cooperation with said paper handler.

17. (currently amended) A method of handling a continuous feed of paper comprising:

directing paper into a paper handler;

directing the paper from the paper handler to the printer; and

providing ~~tension~~ a drag force onto the paper with the paper handler in the range of about 0.8N to about 1.1N, thereby handling the paper with the paper handler to provide for continuous paper flow through the printer.

18. (currently amended) A method of handling a continuous feed of paper comprising:

directing paper into a paper handler;

directing the paper from the paper handler to the printer;

providing a drag force onto the paper with the paper handler, thereby handling the paper with the paper handler to provide for continuous paper flow through the printer; and ~~The method of claim 17 further comprising~~ sensing the presence of the leading edge of the paper proximate to the printer inlet.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 18 further comprising forwarding paper from the paper handler to the printer inlet until the leading edge of the paper is sensed proximate to the printer inlet.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 18 further comprising drawing the leading edge of the paper into the printer inlet after the leading edge of the paper is sensed proximate to the printer inlet.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 18 further comprising sensing for top of form indicators.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 18 further comprising executing a print job after a top of form indicator has been sensed.

23. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising monitoring the paper travel through the printer to determine if a paper jam has occurred.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 18 further comprising monitoring the paper travel through the printer to determine if a paper jam has occurred and monitoring the paper travel through the printer by directing the paper exiting the printer across a magnetized wheel thereby rotating the magnetized wheel when paper movement is occurring such that a detectable oscillating magnetic field is produced when the paper continues to exit the printer.

25. (original) The method of claim 24 further comprising monitoring the magnetic field produced by the rotating magnetic wheel and terminating printer operations when the magnetic field ceases that is produced by the rotating magnetic wheel.

26. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising monitoring the status of a print job to determine the completion of a print job and advancing paper to the top of form position upon the completion of a print job.

27. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising determining if a print job is pending for printing and cutting the paper upon the completion of a print job and the determination that no print job is pending for printing.

28. (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising operatively coupling said paper handler with the printer.

29. (original) The method of claim 17 where said paper handler includes a paper handler controller and the printer includes a printer controller, where the paper handler controller monitors the paper handler and provides control commands to the paper handler and to the printer controller, and where the printer controller monitors the printer and provides control commands to the printer and to the paper handler controller.

30. (original) The method of claim 29 further comprising modifying the printer to receive data from said paper handler and to transmit data to said paper handler.

31.(original) The method of claim 30 further comprising modifying the printer controller to receive data from said paper handler controller and to transmit data to said paper handler controller.

32. (original) A method of printing onto a continuous stream of paper comprising the steps of:

coupling a paper handler with a printer;

adding top of form indicators to the continuous stream of paper;

feeding the leading edge of the continuous stream of paper through the paper handler to the paper inlet of the printer;

sensing for the top of form indicators;

receiving a print job into the printer; and

monitoring when a top of form indicator has been sensed and initiate printing the print job onto the continuous stream of paper at that time.